

# **UTAH TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION MEETING**

Friday, August 12, 2016

Duchesne County Commission Chambers – 734 North Center Street, Duchesne, Utah

The August 2016 meeting of the Utah Transportation Commission was called to order to 8:32 a.m. by Chairman J. Kent Millington in the Duchesne County Commission Chambers, located at 734 North Center Street in Duchesne, Utah. Chairman Millington reminded presenters and audience members that the meeting was being broadcasted live at [youtube/utahDOT/live](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=utahDOT/live), and the video would be available online after the meeting.

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Commissioner Zeenati moved to approve the minutes of the June 2016 Tour and Staff Update and Commission meetings. Commissioner Holbrook seconded the motion, and the minutes were unanimously approved.

Introductions of Commission members, UDOT staff and local government officials were made. The absence of Commissioners Barlow and Cramer were noted. Those in attendance included:

J. Kent Millington, Commission Chairman  
Meghan Z. Holbrook, Commissioner  
Dannie R. McConkie, Commissioner  
Naghi Zeenati, Commissioner  
Gayle F. McKeachnie, Commissioner  
Carlos Bracerias, UDOT Executive Director  
Heather Barthold, Commission Assistant  
Aaron Pinkerton, UDOT Region Three  
Bill Lawrence, UDOT Programming Director  
Bob Pelly, UDOT STIP Coordinator  
Brent Schvaneveldt, UDOT Region Three  
Dian McGuire, UDOT Right of Way  
Eileen Barron, UDOT Region Three  
Elizabeth Weight, UDOT Legislative Analyst  
Ervan Rhoades, UDOT Region Three  
Randy Park, UDOT Project Development Director  
Joe Walker, UDOT Communications Director  
Kris Peterson, UDOT Region One Director  
Lisa Wilson, UDOT Region Two Deputy Director  
Larry Montoya, UDOT Region Three  
Nathan Lee, UDOT Program Development Director  
Rick Torgerson, UDOT Region Four Director

Robert Miles, UDOT Traffic and Safety Director  
Teri Newell, UDOT Region Three Director  
Zack Whitney, UDOT Communications  
Ivan Marrero, FHWA Division Administrator  
Brad King, State Representative  
Scott Chew, State Representative  
Greg Todd, Duchesne County  
Ron Winterton, Duchesne County  
Jim Harper, Naples City  
Ryan Snow, Roosevelt City  
Mark Raymond, Uintah County  
Glade Allred, Vernal City  
Adam Lankford, Wasatch Group  
Greg Curtis  
Aaron Larsen, Forsgren Engineering  
Bret Reynolds, Civco Engineering  
Chris Haller, Utah Division of Parks & Recreation  
Craig Friant, J-U-B  
Jacky Lyman, Sunrise Engineering  
Mike McCandless, Epic Engineering  
Stephanie Ray, Michael Baker International  
Troy D. Ostler, Civco Engineering

Two Zero Fatalities campaign PSAs were shown. One's message was that distracted driving is drunk driving; the other focused on red light violations. Each ad ran for one week during the Olympics.

## **LOCAL AREA PRESENTATION BY THREE**

Teri Newell, UDOT Region Three Director, briefly reviewed the previous day's tour, which focused on rural corridors, and highlighted US-40, US-191, US-189 and US-6. She introduced Larry Montoya, the Project Manager for the Uintah Basin. Larry reported on recent, current and upcoming projects on US-40, giving data of what percent of those projects could be categorized as pavement preservation, safety improvements, roadway widening or other.

Carlos Bracerias, UDOT Executive Director, said that every project UDOT does has safety elements; pavement preservation projects have included things like new guardrail and right of way fencing to keep cattle off the roadway. He clarified that the percentages of safety improvement projects referred to in the presentation represented a fund type.

The majority of past and current projects on US-40 were categorized as pavement preservation at 61% and 52%,

respectively, while the majority of future projects, 72%, are categorized as capacity. Larry described several upcoming passing lanes projects on US-40, and reported on other current projects in the Uintah Basin area as well.

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Duchesne County Commissioner Ron Winterton welcomed the Commission to the Basin area. He said he was glad that the previous day's tour helped show what US-40 and US-191 mean to the area, as they are the only two routes to get in. He talked about the safety issues on US-191 and the seasonally open SR-35 when oil production is high. He talked about passing lane needs between Duchesne and Myton. He recognized the work done in Uintah County and said traffic flow into Vernal is better now than before, but said he'd like the Commission to look at what's needed on this side of the County.

Uintah County Commissioner Mark Raymond thanked the Commission for coming out to the area. He said UDOT has been extremely helpful in recent years, and that Region Three has been visiting frequently to review and discuss projects. He said the project on US-40 at the twists was "one of the single greatest improvements of all time." He said that most of the transportation needs now are between Duchesne and Salt Lake City, and Uintah County supports Duchesne County and the improvements made and needed in the area. He said he's extremely supportive of the 2040 plan, which includes two lanes in each direction between Duchesne and Vernal by 2040; he said he can't emphasize the importance of that enough. He also talked briefly about oil and gas prices and unemployment rates.

State Representative Brad King thanked the Commission for taking the time to travel and view the corridors around the State. He said urban and rural attitudes are different: when you fix something on an urban corridor, people stop being mad, but when you fix something in a rural area, people are grateful. He said he traveled on US-191 to the meeting and that two projects almost made him late, but he was grateful and he cheers every time he sees an orange cone because it's progress. He talked about the challenges of US-191, its narrow shoulders and the need for passing lanes. He said that the only other thing as important on that corridor, according to constituents, is a place to go to the bathroom. He shared appreciation for Regions Three and Four, and thanked the Commission for their involvement. He closed by saying the people of the area feel safer in a traffic jam on I-15 than when passing deer or black cows on US-191.

State Representative Scott Chew complimented Larry Montoya and Carlos Braceras on the efforts made on SR-149 to Dinosaur Monument and their work with land owners there. He talked about black cows on the roadway, and the need for fencing to reduce vehicle and livestock collisions, especially when oil activities increase again. He talked about opportunities for fracking. He said he appreciates what the Department does, and the efforts that are made; he said people in his district are supportive of UDOT and would like to see more things done. A discussion about cows and harnesses with reflective tape took place, prompting Representative Chew to end by saying it would be easier if he only knew which cows would be hanging out on the highway.

## **FHWA REPORT**

Ivan Marrero, FHWA Division Administrator, thanked Teri Newell and Region Three for the previous day's tour, saying he learned a lot of the area needs and how critical they are to the economy. He thanked Ervan Rhoades, UDOT Region Three Area Supervisor, and his wife, for making the group dinner.

He announced that the Strategic Highway Research Program (SHRP2) selected 42 organizations to receive funding and technical assistance to use and learn from different initiatives. UDOT was selected for three utility bundles: reliability data, reliability simulation and planning model.

Ivan said Federal Highways has called for greater coordination between DOTs and planning organizations and asks that they start prioritizing projects with a Unified Transportation Plan. Ivan said there is a trend where he brings a Federal Highways announcement, but it's something Utah is already doing. He said it shows Utah's innovation and good business practices to be one step ahead of everyone else. He said the proposal was

published June 27 and comments are due August 26.

Ivan shared Secretary Foxx's announcement that \$500 million dollars will be made available through an 8<sup>th</sup> round of Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) grants. This year, a \$20 million grant was awarded for UTA's First and Last Mile Connections Initiative to improve connectivity to UTA systems and facilities.

Ivan announced the Every Day Counts Regional Summit will be held in Sacramento in December, where initiatives will be studied and selected for promotion. He said there is a list of eleven initiatives, and UDOT is already doing, or starting implementation of eight of them.

Ivan also said that FHWA has received lists of repurposed earmarks and August redistribution projects, which total \$3.6 million and an estimated \$110 million, respectively.

## **UDOT SCOREBOARD**

Randy Park, UDOT Project Development Director, reported on the construction program. In the past two months, 20 projects were advertised for a total of \$65 million. There are currently 150 under construction. A discussion about weather and paving operations took place.

Robert Miles, UDOT Traffic and Safety Director, used Numetric to give a safety report. July had 26 fatal crashes, with 27 fatalities, and there have been 152 fatal crashes to date. He said safety messaging has been focusing on seatbelts. 59% of fatalities have involved someone not buckled correctly, or at all. 41% have been buckled correctly. 87.9% of drivers use seatbelts.

Commissioner Holbrook said it would be good to remind the public that it's not faster speeds but not buckling up and distracted driving that are contributing to fatal crashes.

## **ADMINISTRATIVE RULES REVIEW**

### **Airport Licensing Rule Amendment**

Elizabeth Weight, UDOT Communications and Legislative Analyst, informed the Commission of a proposed amendment that would eliminate the Airport Licensing Rule R914-1-3, because the Department is no longer required to license public airports.

### **Class B & C Road Funds Rule**

Elizabeth Weight reviewed the proposed amendment to Rule R926-3, Class B and Class C Road Funds, which clarifies that a recipient of Class B or C funds may expend those funds on any Class B or Class C road or use authorized in the rule.

### **Noise Permits Appeals Rule**

Randy Park reviewed the draft rule that addresses the process for a local government to appeal UDOT's determination to conduct nighttime construction, and a process for local governments to ensure the conditions of a noise permit is enforced by UDOT. The draft rule has been reviewed by Salt Lake County, the Utah League of Cities and Towns, and the Utah Association of Governments. Their suggested modifications were incorporated in the draft rule under consideration.

### **Ropeway Operations Safety Rule**

Robert Miles reviewed a modification of the Ropeway Operation Safety Rule, which removes redundant certifications, like the requirement to provide a manufacture's certification. The rule modification will make UDOT more consistent with other States and industry expectation.

Robert explained that a funicular ropeway is anything that drives like a ski lift, or the arial tram ride at Lagoon; it has to be power driven, as opposed to gravity driven. A funicular ropeway has nothing to do with climbing,

elevators or ziplines.

## **PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT**

### **2016 STIP AMENDMENT #10**

#### **Funding Adjustments at Award or Post Construction**

Bill Lawrence, UDOT Programming Director, presented three “At Award” funding adjustments; not including the Bangerter Highway and 600 West Design project that is listed on the fact sheet. Commissioner McKeachnie moved to approve, and Commissioner Holbrook seconded the motion. The request was unanimously approved.

#### **US-40 Bridge Preservation near Jordanelle – Funding Addition**

Region Two and UDOT Structures requested to add \$500,000 to the US-40; Bridge Preservation near Jordanelle Reservoir Project to address crossover stabilization and pavement panel transition repair. \$200,000 will come from the Structures Program, and \$300,000 from Region Two’s Asset Program. Commissioner McKeachnie moved to approve the request as detailed, and Commissioner Zeenati seconded the motion. The request was unanimously approved.

#### **5300 South/Commerce Drive Signal Upgrade – New Project request**

Region Two and Traffic and Safety requested approval to add the 5300 South/Commerce Drive Signal Upgrade Project to the 2017-2021 STIP. The engineering estimate of \$600,000 is available from the Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP). A discussion about congestion in the area took place. Commissioner Holbrook moved to approve the request and Commissioner McKeachnie seconded the motion. The request was approved unanimously.

#### **Region Four Asset Management Program – New Projects Request**

Region Four requested to add four new asset management projects totaling \$2.3 million:

- \$500 thousand for Culvert Program, Phase 5
- \$450 thousand for I-15; Flexible Delineators, MP 10 – 62
- \$500 thousand for Cattle Guard Replacement, Phase 2
- \$850 thousand for SR-118; Bridge Widening over Sevier River (North of Austin)

A discussion about flexible deliniators took place. Commissioner Zeenati moved to approve the request as detailed, and Commissioners Holbrook and McKeachnie both seconded the motion. The request was unanimously approved.

#### **SR-9; Rockville to Zion National Park – Project Split (For Information Only)**

Bill Lawrence informed the Commission that Region Four has separated the SR-9; Rockville to Zion National Park Project into two phases, currently programmed at a total of \$10 million. Phase One will address the overlay and shoulder widening for \$7.35 million. Phase Two, renamed SR-9; Rockville to Springdale, will reconstruct pavement, improve drainage and provide enhanced mobility and safety in Springdale for the remaining \$2.65 million. Discussions about recent storms in Southern Utah, increasing visitation to Zions National Park and historic culverts in Rockville took place. A discussion about recent storms in Southern Utah, and increasing visitation to Zion National Park took place. Chairman Millington briefly shared his experience of sidewalks in Shanghai.

#### **I-15; South Davis Operational Upgrades – Funding Type Change (For Information Only)**

Bill Lawrence explained that the Retained Federal ROW Revenue Program has \$2,668,312 in balance, which is available from selling the remaining pieces of excess properties that were purchased using federal funds, for various federal projects. These funds will be applied to the I-15; South Davis Operational Upgrades project expenditures, which will free up the equivalent amount of State TIF funds that can be reprogrammed at a later date.

## **REC TRAILS PROGRAM FOR APPROVAL**

Bill Lawrence presented the 2017 Recreational Trails Program (RTP) for approval, which has 41 projects totaling \$1,490,393 in Federal Aid Funds. RTP grants are available to provide and maintain motorized and non-motorized trails. The RTP projects are selected and administered through the Utah State Parks and Recreation Division. Chris Haller, the Division of Natural Resources' Off Highway Vehicle Program Coordinator and Rec Trails Grant Administrator, talked about the Rec Trails Program grant. He said 21 of Utah's 29 Counties will receive some form of improvement. He said some of this year's grants are study grants to purchase traffic counters that are manufactured for trails. Discussions about the user fees, and the trail advisory council took place. Commissioner Holbrook moved to approve the request to add the 2017 RTP to the STIP, and Commissioner Zeenati seconded the motion. The request was unanimously approved.

#### **DRAFT STIP – APPROVAL TO SUBMIT TO FHWA/FTA**

Bill Lawrence presented the request to send the draft FY 2017-2022 Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) to FHWA/FTA for review and approval. In May, the Commission gave approval to publish the draft STIP to the UDOT website, where it was open for review and public comment from June 25 through August 6. Bill shared some of the 93 comments received. Chairman Millington asked if any of the comments prompted changes to the STIP. Bill said there were none that he was aware of, but some comments will direct the discussion further on. A discussion about ways to interact with the public took place. Commissioner Zeenati moved to approve the request as detailed, and Commissioner Holbrook seconded the motion. The request was unanimously approved.

#### **VINEYARD SIB LOAN UPDATE (FOR INFORMATION ONLY)**

Bill Lawrence gave an explanation of a funding adjustment made to the SIB Loan. A resolution was passed by the Board of Directors of the Redevelopment Agency of the Town of Vineyard to reduce the amount of the SIB loan needed from \$16.15 million to \$14.481 million. All other terms remain the same as they were approved by the Commission. The required first principal payment on the SIB loan will be due May 1, 2017.

#### **REQUESTS FOR USE OF CORRIDOR PRESERVATION FUNDS**

##### **De-obligation Request**

Randy Park presented the request to deobligate \$1,250,000 of funds that were previously authorized to purchase a property in South Jordan. Before the transaction was complete, the property owner sold to a developer, and there is now an active project at the property location. Commissioner Zeenati moved to approve the request and Commissioner McKeachnie seconded the motion. The request was unanimously approved.

##### **Wells Fargo Bank – Layton**

Randy Park presented the imminent development request to obligate \$126,500 corridor preservation funds to purchase 6,160 square feet of property needed for the widening of Gentile Street in Layton. The property has a Wells Fargo Branch on it; the appraised value includes cost to cure items like signs, asphalt, paving and trees. Commissioner Zeenati moved to approve the request as detailed and Commissioner McKeachnie seconded the motion. The request was unanimously approved.

#### **DRAPER WEST RETAIL PROPERTY EXCHANGE**

Randy Park explained that Draper West Retail LLC owns property along UDOT's 13490 South Street project. As part of the project, UDOT needs to acquire 3,910 square feet of Draper West Retail's property. Draper West Retail would like to exchange property at value for value of UDOT's adjoining property, acquiring 13,731 square feet. The properties were appraised in December 2015 for \$14.65 per square foot. Draper West Retail LLC has agreed to pay the remaining balance in land value at the rate of the new appraisal when it is complete. Commissioner McConkie moved to approve the property exchange as detailed. Commissioner Zeenati seconded the motion and the request was unanimously approved.

#### **CONSENT AGENDA PROCESS APPROVAL**

Chairman Millington proposed that the Commission create a rule to allow for a Commission consent agenda item. Commissioner Zeenati moved to approve the request and Commissioner Holbrook seconded the motion.

The request was unanimously approved.

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

**COMMISSION COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Commissioner Zeenati reported on the Community Impact Board meeting. Commissioners Holbrook, McConkie, McKeachnie and Millington had nothing to report, as their committees and boards had not met.

Commissioner Holbrook requested a refresher on each committee and what they do.

**UPCOMING TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION MEETINGS**

Upcoming meetings and locations are as follows:

- September 15-16 – West Point
- November 17-18 – Eagle Mountain
- October 13-14 – Ephraim
- December 9 – Salt Lake City

The meeting adjourned at 10:42 a.m.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Heather Barthold". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath it.

Commission Assistant